bay, Calcutta, Madras & Delhi, the 4th Central Pay Commission had recommended that posts of It. Chief Controller of Imports & Exports in these four offices may be given the pay scale of Rs. 4500—5700.

(b) To give effect to these recommendations, necessary orders placing the posts of JCCI&E in the regional offices at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Delhi in the scale of pay of Rs. 4500—5700 w.e.f. 1.1.86 were issued vide Ministry of Finance's Notification No. F. 15(7)IC/86, dated 13.3.87.

Recommendations of Committee for Covering of Export Promotion Activities

2619. SHRI SHIVPRASAD CHANPURIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed any Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Trade Fair Authority of India to create an Umbrella organisation to cover export promotion activities of TFAI, TDA, FIEO, Export Promotion Councils; and

(b) if so, what are the recommendations made, so far, by the Committee?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Committee has not given its recommendations so far.

Trade Agreement or Protocol with USSR

2620. SHRI SHIVPRASAD CHANPURIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the Trade Agreement or Protocol entered with USSR for 1991 together with quantities and values of products involved; and

(b) whether similar Trade Protocols for 1992 are likely to be entered either jointly or separately with the USSR or the Russian Federation and other erstwhile USSR States, if so, what are the details of quantum of export-import, value and quantity of each product involved, period of validity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) The Trade Protocol entered into with USSR for 1991 provides for import from USSR of Rs. 43300 million and export to USSR of Rs. 50810 million. The items of import from USSR include machinery equipment and spares, crude oil and petroleum products, fertilisers, chemicals and pharmaceutical products, steel products, non-ferrous metals etc. and the items for export to USSR include agricultural products, minerals and ores, chemicals and allied products, leather and leather manufactures, textiles, engineering goods etc.

(b) Efforts are being made to sign Trade Protocols for 1992 with the Soviet Union and its Republics as early as possible. The actual details about this Protocol would be available only after the Trade Protocols are signed.

Indo-Mauritius Trade

2621. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether areas have been identified for the expansion of Indo-Mauritius trade;

(b) if so, what are these areas;

(c) whether any trade relation have been established in the past;

(d) if so, the fields in which Indo-Mauritius trade started in the past; and

(e) what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. These include auto components, bicycles, and parts, toilet articles/cosmetics, pharmaceuticals, chemicals plastics, wheat/wheat flour, books leather and leather products, household appliances, travel goods, etc.

(c) to (e) Trade relations between the two countries are centuries old. Trade in

the past was in items like cotton/cotton manufactures, textile fabrics, fruits/vegetables, rice etc.

Free Trade Zone at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh

2622. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan was drawn up for the setting up of a free trade zone in Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) details of the same and the progress made in its implementation;

(c) whether there are any factors leading to delay in its implementation; and

(d) by when the free trade zone is expected to start functioning at Vishakhapatnam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Zone Administration has taken possession of 360.51 acres of land and development works have been initiated.

(c) and (d) The Zone is expected to be functional in 1993, once the basic infrastructural facilities are completed.

Decanalisation of Export of Processed Mica

2623. SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decanalised not only exports of processed mica but of mica scrap and mica waste also, resulting in the increase of exports of processed mica and decline in the exports of mica scrap and mica waste;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for such differential treatment; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to decanalise export of mica-waste?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) On an assurance from mica trade to substantially incrrease exports of processed mica in case it was decanalised, it was decided by the Government to decanalise exports of processed mica including mica films, mica blocks and splittings with effect from 22.10.1990. Exports of mica scrap/factory cuttings/mica waste was continued to be canalised through Mica Trading Corporation (MITCO)/MMTC to watch the relative performance of private trade and MITCO.

(c) No, sir.

Retirement of the Chairman of Hindustan Diamonds Corporation Limited

2624. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman, Hindustan Diamonds Corporation Limited is due for retirement;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) whether Government are considering grant of extension in service to the Chairman, Hindustan Diamonds Corporation Limited, despite the Government's declared policy, not to grant such extensions beyond superannuation; if so, on what grounds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) A proposal to grant extension in service to the former Chairman of the Hindustan Dimonds Corporation Ltd. was under consideration, so as to place an understudy and to groom him to take over the Chairmanship of the Corporation at an appropriate time. However, the Chairman was due for retirement on 30th November, 1991 and he demitted office on the same day.